

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 ACDA-19 PM-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 DRC-01 /104 W

----- 035099

R 071732Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3862

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10312

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, KU, MU,QA, UK

SUBJECT: UK--KUWAIT--OMAN--QATAR: THE SALADIN SHORTAGE

1. FCO SOURCE HAS SHARED WITH US BRITISH ANXIOUSNESS TO PIN KUWAITIS DOWN ON WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL TAKE UP BRITISH OFFER TO SELL THEM 28 SALADIN ARMORED VEHICLES. PROBLEM ARISES BECAUSE SHEIKH KHALIFA OF QATAR (WHO IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN BRITAIN SEPTEMBER 8) HAS AGREED TO PAY FOR SOME (PROBABLY 8-L0) SALADINS FOR OMAN, AND BRITISH DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH SALADINS FOR BOTH. SUDDENLY "EVERYBODY" WANTS SALADINS, AND THEY ARE NO LONGER IN PRODUCTION.
2. KUWAITIS (GENERAL MUBARRAK) EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SALADINS IN JULY AND 28 WERE OFFERED. THERE HAS BEEN SOME BARGAINING OVER PRICE SINCE, BUT WHEN BRITISH AGAIN RAISED MATTER IN KUWAIT SEPTEMBER 5 THEY WERE UNABLE TO Elicit EVEN A HINT OF KUWAITI INTENTIONS. MEANWHILE,

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BRITISH DO NOT WANT TO SEE KHALIFA'S ENTHUSIASM ON OMAN'S

BEHALF DAMPEN.

3. COMMENT: ARE THERE US COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES  
SHAPING UP IF BRITISH HAVE RUN DRY ON SALADINS? ARE  
US APC'S THAT MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE OR DIFFERENT?

SOHM

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LONDON10312  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1 SOHM  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Jul-2001 by kellew0>; APPROVED <14-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UK--KUWAIT--OMAN--QATAR: THE SALADIN SHORTAGE  
**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, KU, MU, QA, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005